

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NASA-01
NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 DOE-11
CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /150 W
-----092167 140255Z /62

R 132006Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8938
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

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USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MPOL, UR, US
SUBJECT: SOVIETS REJECT COMPROMISE ON RB/ER

1. INTENSIFIED SOVIET PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB
HAS NOW BEEN CAPPED BY WEEKEND'S TASS STATEMENT AND MARCH
13 LETTER OF SOVIET SCIENTISTS TO PRESIDENT. STATEMENT
(ASSUME TEXT AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON) MAY
HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY SEC DEF BROWN'S MARCH 10 PRESS
CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF USING
RB/ER AS A BARGAINING CHIP. TASS NOTED REPORTS THAT U.S.
INTENDS TO "FORCE" THE ISSUE BY PRODUCING BUT NOT DEPLOY-
ING THE WEAPON AND TO RAISE THE "UNACCEPTABLE" PROPOSAL
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TO TIE THE FINAL DECISION TO "OTHER EXTRANEIOUS QUES-
TIONS." THE STATEMENT REFERS THREE TIMES TO BREZHNEV'S
PROPOSAL FOR MUTUAL RENUNCIATION OF PRODUCTION OF RB/ER,
CALLING IT "THE ONLY POSSIBLE SENSIBLE SOLUTION" TO THE
QUESTION.

2. SEVERAL ARTICLES IN SOVIET PRESS IN PAST WEEK HAVE

SOUGHT TO INTENSIFY PRESSURE ON U.S. ON NEUTRON BOMB
ISSUE AND THE LETTER OF 31 SOVIET SCIENTISTS IS OBVIOUSLY
INTENDED TO CONTINUE THIS PRESSURE. PRAVDA ON MARCH 10
GAVE LENGTHY TREATMENT TO TASS REPORT OF DRAFT CONVENTION
INTRODUCED AT CCD BY SOVIETS AND ALLIES BANNING NEUTRON
WEAPONS. SEVERAL OTHER ARTICLES, INCLUDING A LONG
PIECE BY SHAPOSHNIKOV OF THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL IN PRAVDA
OF MARCH 7, HAVE RAISED FAMILIAR THEMES IN SOVIET
CAMPAIGN AGAINST RB/ER. NONE OF THESE ARTICLES HAVE
MOVED THE SOVIET POSITION ANY FURTHER AND THEIR PRESUMED
PURPOSE, AS WELL AS THAT OF THE TASS STATEMENT, HAS BEEN
TO HARDEN THE PUBLIC SOVIET POSITION AGAINST COMPROMISE
ON THIS ISSUE. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS, NUCLEAR BOMBS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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SAS ID: 3353037
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TAGS: MPOL, UR, US
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